issue of introduction of a Gold Bank as a National Scheme to the High Level Committee on Balance of Payments set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan. The High Level Committee examined the commercial viability of the scheme and other details and in it's Report of April 1993 recommended, inter alia, caution in creating permanent institutions or corporate bodies for mobilising gold. Government has accepted the recommendation of the High Level Committee and has dropped the issue of setting up a Gold Bank for the time being.

Facilities provided by World Bank and IMF

2646. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have taken soft life on some of the crucial policy issues like reduction of subsidy and formulation of early exit policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these steps have helped the country while working out Budget proposals for 1994-95;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether these facilities will enable Government to achieve their targets fixed for 1994-95; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of further steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (f) Necessary provisions have been made in the Budget proposals for '94-95' for the National Renewal Fund. As part of its process of fiscal consideration, the Government is aiming at better targetting of subsidies for enhanced efficiency. The budget proposals are based entirely on the Government of India's own assessment of the requirements of the economic and the national interests.

क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को हुआ घाटा

2647. **श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 196 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों की 14,500 से अधिक शाखाओं को चलाने में प्रति दिन एक करोड़ रुपये का घाटा हो रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस घाटे को दूर करने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये हैं;

(ग) क्या इस घाटे को दूर करने के लिये आल इंडिया ग्रामीण बैंक वर्कर्स आर्गेनाइजेशन ने एक राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक स्थापित करने का सुझाव दिया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या निर्णय लिया है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. अबरार अहमद): (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक ने सूचित किया हैं कि वर्ष 1992-93 के दौरान, 172 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को 327.26 करोड़ रुपए की हानियां हुई थीं। उनकी अर्थक्षमता में, कम समय में सुधार लाने की दृष्टि से, दिसम्बर, 1993 में उपायों का एक पैकेज घोषित किया गया था। इन उपायों में गैर-लक्ष्यगत समूह वित्तपोषण को 40% से बढ़ा कर 60% करना गैर-निधि पर आधारित कारोबार में वृद्धि, उन क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को सेवा क्षेत्र संबंधी बाध्यताओं से मुक्त करना जिनका वर्ष 1992-93 में संवितरण

2 करोड़ रुपये से कम थी और हानि उठाने वाली शाखाओं को मंडियों, तालुक/जिला मुख्यालयों के कृषि उपज केन्द्रों आदि जैसे स्थानों में पुनः स्थापित करने की अनुमति देना और उन संस्थाओं के परिसरों में विस्तार काऊंटर खोलना, जिनके लिये क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक प्रमुख बक हैं, आदि उपाय शामिल हैं। क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को सेफ डिपाजिट लाकर लगाने की भी अनुमति दी गयी है।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक सहित क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को पुनर्गठित करने के कई वैकल्पिक माडलों पर विचार करने के पश्चात्, क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को स्वयं सक्षमता (स्टैण्ड एलोन) के आधार पर उनके तुलन-पत्रों में सुस्पष्टता लाकर उन्हें पुनर्गठित करने का निर्णय लिया गया है।

Cases against officials of Central Bank of India at Nallur

2648. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case has been registered against the manager and other employees of Central Bank of India at Nallur (Vridhachalam);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concerned official has been suspended or not;..

(d) at what stage the case is presently pending; and

(e) what steps are being taken by the bank to ensure that such incidents do o occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Central Bank of India has reported that an F.I.R. was lodged on 24.2.94 at Veppur Police Station against one Branch Manager and two employees of its Nallur (Vridhachalam) branch as the jewels in the jewel loan packets at the branch are missing and have been found substituted by stones and steel items.

(c) One Branch Manager and a Head Cashier have been placed under suspension from the Bank's service with effect from 1.3.94.

(d) The Bank has reported that the report of the Regional Office, Tiruchirapalli, who had investigated into the matter has been received on 9.3.94. Based on the report appropriate action as warranted, would be taken by the bank.

(e) Central Bank of India has reported that it has advised its Regional Offices to carry out periodic surprise inspections wherein physical vertification of all jewel items is ensured.

Income tax Exemption on donations received by Universities

2649. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of donations fully exempted from income tax received by Universities in Maharashtra, what are the names of such Universities and the amount of donations received by them; and

(b) whether the scheme of giving 100 per cent exemption to donations to Universities is proving useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) As these provisions came into force with effect from assessment year 1994-95, there is no record, at present, with the Income Tax Department, regarding donations received by Universities. The Universities and Deemed Uni-